

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Page 1, after the title insert:

**--BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

1. Field of the Invention--;

After the first paragraph insert:

--2. Description of the Related Art--;

Page 3, after the second paragraph insert:

**--SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--;**

amend the second to last paragraph to read:

--For meeting this object, the invention proposes ~~in a method of the type mentioned in the preamble of claim 1~~ to adjust the strip temperature in the furnace at most to 50 °K above immersion temperature in the zinc bath.--

Page 6, after the first paragraph, insert:

**--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--.**

Before the second to last paragraph insert:

**--DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS--;**